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N. E. FARMER.

From the Journal of the English Agricultural Society.

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AN ESSAY

On making Compost heaps from liquids and other substances; written on the evidence of many years experience.—To which the prize of ten sovereigns was awarded.—By James Dixon, Esq., Secretary to the Manchester Agricultural Society.

The force and power of an agriculturist to produce good crops mainly depends on the manures he can command; and how to derive the greatest possible benefits from his immediate resources is one of the most useful subjects that can engage his attention. The English Agricultural Society having offered a premium for the best mode of making compost heaps, I venture to forward the committee my ideas on this most important branch of rural management; and in doing this I shall state the course I have pursued in this particular for many years, and in which every additional experience inclines me not to make any systematic alteration.

My farm is a strong, retentive soil, on a substratum of ferruginous clay; and being many times disappointed in what I considered reasonable anticipations of good crops, I determined on a new system of manuring. Though quite satisfied of the expense which would necessarily be incurred by my plan, I still determined on its adoption. At the onset I effectually drained a considerable part of my farm. My next object was how to improve its texture at the least cost—(perhaps I may be allowed to state that my holding has always been at rack-rent); for this purpose we carted great quantities of fine sawdust and peat earth or bog; we had so far to go for the latter, that two horses would fetch little more than three tons in one day—one horse would fetch three cart-loads of sawdust in the same time. Having brought great quantities of both peat and sawdust into my farm yard, I laid out for the bottom of a compost heap a space of considerable dimensions, and about three feet in depth: three fourths of this bottom was peat, the rest sawdust; on this we conveyed daily the dung from the cattle sheds, the urine also is conducted through channels to wells for its reception,—one on each side of the compost heap;—common water is entirely prevented from mixing with it. Every second day the urine so collected is thrown over the whole mass with a scoop, and at the same time we regulate the accumulated dung. This being continued for a week, another layer, nine inches or a foot thick, of peat and sawdust (and frequently peat without sawdust) is wheeled on the accumulated heap. These matters are continuously added to each other during winter, and in addition once in every week never less than 25 cwt., more frequently 50 cwt., of night-soil and urine; the latter are always laid next above the peat or bog earth, as we think it accelerates their decomposition. It is perhaps proper here to state that the peat is dug and exposed to the alternations of the weather for several months before it is brought to the heap for admixture; by this it loses much of its moisture. In some cases, peat contains acid or astringent matters, which are injurious to useful vegetation. On this I have not tried any decided experiment, but am led to the supposition by frequently seeing stones, some in a partial state of decomposition, others wholly decomposed in bogs, and at the depth of several feet from the surface. Some years' experience has convinced me of the impropriety of using recently dug peat; proceeding in the manner I recommend, it is superior and more convenient on every account—very much lighter to cart to the farm-yard or any other situation where it is wanted; and so convinced am I of its utility in composts for every description of soil, except that of its own character, that wherever it can be laid down on a farm at less than 4s. per ton, I should recommend every agriculturist and horticulturist that can command it, even at the cost here stated, to give it a fair trial. So retentive and attractive of moisture is peat, that if liberally applied to any arid, sandy soil, that soil does not burn in a dry season, and it so much improves the texture and increases the produce of an obdurate clay soil, if in other respects rightly cultivated, that actual experience alone can fairly determine its value.

For the conveyance of night-soil and urine, we have the largest and strongest casks, such as oils are imported in; the top of which is provided with a funnel to put the matters through, and the casks are fixed on wheels like those of a common dung-cart. For the convenience of emptying this carriage, the compost heaps are always lower at one end; the highest is where we discharge the contents, in order that they may in some degree spread themselves over the whole accumulation: the situation on which the wheels of these carriages stand while being discharged is raised considerably; this we find convenient, as the compost heap may be sloped six or seven feet high: low compost heaps, in my opinion, should be avoided. The plan here recommended I have carried on for some time. I find no difficulty in manuring my farm ever once in two years; by this repetition I keep up the fertility of my land, and it never requires more than a moderate application of manure.

I am fully aware that there are many localities where neither peat nor night-soil can be readily obtained; but it is worth a farmer's while to go even more than twenty miles for the latter substance, provided he can have it without deterioration: the original cost is often trifling. On a farm where turnips or mangold are cultivated to some extent, the system here recommended will be almost incalculably advantageous; a single horse is sufficient for one carriage—mine hold upwards of a ton each; six tons of this manure in compost with peat, or, if that is not convenient, any other matters, such as ditch scourings, or high headlands which have been properly prepared and laid dry in a heap for some time, would be amply sufficient for an acre of turnips or mangold. This manure is by far the most invigorating of any I have ever yet tried; bones in any state will bear no comparison with it for any crop; but it must be remembered that I write on the supposition that it has not been reduced in strength before it is fetched.

Convenience frequently suggests that compost heaps should be raised on different parts of a farm; but, unless in particular instances, it is well to have them in the yard: in the farm-yard, all the urine from the cattle stalls may be employed with the greatest economy; and be it remarked that the urine from animals, in given weights, is more powerful than their solid excrements.* How important then must it be to the farmer to make the most extensive and the most careful use of this liquid. It is sometimes carted on the land, but that practice will not bear a comparison with making it into composts in the manner here recommended. Great waste is often made in putrescent manures after they are carted on the land; instead of being immediately covered or incorporated with the soil, we not unfrequently see them exposed for days together in the hot rays of a scorching sun, or to the injurious influences of a dry wind. I have before stated that compost heaps should on many considerations be raised in the farm-yard; still circumstances are frequently such that it is more proper to make them at some distance in the fields. If a headland becomes too high by frequent ploughings or working of the land, in that case it should be ploughed at the time when clover or mixed grass seeds are sown with a white crop, for instance, barley or oats, and clover for the year following: a headland might then be ploughed, and a number of cart-loads of some manure heaped from one end to the other. Immediately after this it should be trenched with the spade (or what is sometimes called digging,) and ridged high, in order that an action should take place between the soil and manure; by this means the mass would soon be in a condition for turning over, and any ditch scourings, or other matters which had not in the first instance been used, might now be added to the mixture. The heap should then be allowed to remain closed for a few weeks, then turned over again; at this turning, in all probability, the mass would be much reduced; if sufficiently reduced, raise the ridge of compost well on both sides, but, instead of its top being pointed, make a trench or cavity on the top from one end of the heap to the other. This cavity should be made tolerably retentive of moisture, which may be effected by treading with the feet; carriages of night soil or urine from the cattle stalls may then be emptied into the trench, and the bulk of the heap would determine how many were required; this being done, a little earth should be thrown into the trench, and the heap allowed to remain in that state until the middle or latter end of autumn; it will then be ready for another turning; but at this time care must be

*This must be taken with some limitations, for urine contains 90 to 95 per cent. of water; and unmixed dung contains all the salts of urine, besides much mucus and other substances.—W. L. Rham.

taken to have the heap well made up at the sides and pointed at the top; in this situation rain will be thrown off, and the compost preserved dry until winter presents some favorable opportunity for laying it on the young clover, wheat, or for making any other use of it which may be required.

The beneficial effects of top-dressing young clovers or mixed grass seeds is scarcely ever regarded with due attention. By this help crops are not only much increased, even 30 or 50 per cent., but they are also ready for cutting much sooner, which in a backward spring gives the stock farmer inestimable advantages for sorting his cattle, and thereby raising manure at his pleasure. The full effects of this practice I first experienced in the dry season of 1826: I had some clovers which had been manured the previous winter; my land was soon covered with crop, and that so vigorous a one, that the hot weather did not overpower it. My cows that summer were tied up during the day-time, and in the night they were turned out into the pastures; most of the stock in my district were much distressed from over-heat as well as from being short of food for some weeks; milk yielded little butter, scarcely any for a time was offered in our large market town:—no doubt that year will be remembered by many gentlemen on the Agricultural Society's committee. I, however, was under no difficulties on account of the season: my clovers produced plenty of food for my cattle, and in return they yielded as much milk and butter as I ever recollect from the same number. I am persuaded that the same satisfactory results would have followed if the same system had been adopted for feeding stock; it was that year my attention was first directed to raising compost heaps from urine. This I now do frequently without the help of any dung from the cattle-stalls; the same occasion called my mind to another matter well worthy every farmer's attention—I allude to the great superiority of the manure raised in summer soiling to that produced in the stalls during winter. I verily believe the difference is fifty per cent. unless stock are fed in a great measure during winter with artificial food. In an arrangement for making compost heaps from urine, I would recommend a receptacle to be made at the back of the cattle stalls just outside the building; this should hold about 20 cartloads of mould, or any other matters to be employed; if its situation were a little lower than the cattle-sheds all the urine would pass into it, and remain there until the mass is completely saturated, which will be sufficient; when the earthy matters are covered over with it, the compost may then be thrown out and the proceeding again renewed. In order to show part of the benefits of this practice, I beg here to observe that the most foul or weedy mould may be used; the action of the urine, if not reduced by water, is so powerful, that wire-worms, the black slug, many other destroying insects, and all vegetables, weeds, &c., when in contact with the urine for a time are deprived of their living functions. The situation for raising this compost should be protected from the weather by a covering similar to a cart-shed; indeed, the deteriorating influences of rain, sun, and arid winds, on all putrescent matters or compost are so serious, that in my humble judgment it would be worth while to have places under cover where these are usually laid down.

I beg to conclude this essay with some observations made on a former occasion: No amelioration connected with the rural art is of more lasting importance than correcting the constitutional defects of a soil. The best horticulturists and market-gardeners are many of them perhaps, unacquainted with the theory, yet perfectly understand the great results from that practice; and in this particular information they are all of them superior to many practical farmers. How often do we see a stiff soil sterile in a great degree from that cause only; yet in the vicinity of a sandpit and adjoining most bogs there is a considerable breadth of coherent land, which might be made double its present value by judicious and liberal top-dressings of peat, which is also unproductive from causes of a contrary nature. The present poverty of many extensive tracts of land is a manifest exhibition of the want of skill or enterprise of their owners and cultivators.

From the Albany Cultivator.

THE SHORT HORNS AND HEREFORDS.

I have been for some years a subscriber to the Cultivator, and have been much instructed by the frequent notices of fine specimens of stock that have from time to time appeared in different numbers. Of late those notices, generally accompanied by a beautiful portrait, have become more frequent, and so far as I have had an opportunity of forming a judgment upon the plan, it is a good one—the youth particularly, are attracted by the picture, and are anxious to read about it and see what it is. This generally creates a taste, and often enlarges it where it has been already created, and the results in both cases are highly beneficial.

The only objection I see to the present strife about cattle is, that the object mainly appears to be, who shall produce the *largest* specimen of the species. Other considerations appear to be generally merged in this. Whether or not this will be productive of good to the country, is a question it would be well for the community to examine closely. The opinion that the domestic animals of a country should be well suited to the usual and ordinary accommodations that can be conveniently had for them, meets with universal approbation. Now, if the great strife is, who shall produce the most extraordinary animal, of course extra food and accommodation of every kind must be provided for all the stock intended for competition, often to the manifest injury of the other stock of the same farmer—a very few "brag beasts" are kept, and often a large number of cattle that are not worthy of commendation.

Another matter of surprise, not only to me but to many others who derive their book knowledge of these matters from your paper, is the effort now apparently making both in England and America to elevate a different breed of cattle over the heads of the Durhams. I have particularly examined the account of the recently imported Herefords in the few last numbers of the Cultivator, and read the appended recommendations. I have never seen a sample of the Herefords, but have been familiar with their history as recorded by Mr Youatt, in his work on British Cattle: and taking the text as laid down by him minutely, the recent discoveries of excellencies in these cattle, calculated to place them before the Durhams or Short Horns, have been matters of considerable surprise. This, to some of the advocates of the Herefords, may sound strange; but the strangeness of the observation will disappear, if they examine fully the chapters devoted by Mr Youatt to the different breeds of cattle, in what may be now, strictly speaking, called their native country. If I understand the work referred to, the engravings in it are calculated for correct representations of the living animals, and, independent of the writings, they alone will be sufficient to satisfy any breeder that some of the allegations made of the superiorities of the recent importations of Herefords, if they resemble their progenitors, cannot be correct. If these statements are correct, and the appearance and test of the animals will prove it, then "improvement has been extended to them." If they have now properties that the breed in the time of Youatt's writings had not, it is a very important question to know how they have acquired those properties. Mr Youatt says, "the Hereford cow is apparently a very inferior animal. Not only is she *no milker*, but even her *form* has been sacrificed by the breeder."—These observations of positive facts, for such we must take them to be when from a standard work, do not read well with the recent assertions of Mr Sotham and Mr Bement—the first of whom holds out the idea that they are *equal* to the Short Horn or Durham, and the latter that they are very good milkers and large. The lattle gentleman, however, states that he has understood their qualities for milk have been "recently improved." How have they been improved in their quality for milk? Not certainly by breeding among themselves, for the trite and true axiom is settled, I believe, that "like will beget like." If then the Herefords in the time of Youatt, and for years before that, were "no milkers," how has the present improvement in that quality been effected? It must have been by the aid of some other breed, celebrated for their possession of that quality, and by whose aid, also, the *form* of the Hereford cow has been so materially improved; for Mr Sotham says, his are fine looking animals, and so says Mr R. L. Allen, if I recollect right, who states that he saw them near Albany.

Now, Messrs Editors, may it not be possible that we are at the commencement of another "stock mania," by which John Bull is about to realize thousands from the farmers of America, by selling them a compound breed of beautiful cattle, the essential qualities of which have been derived, and that very recently, from the Short Horns, that we have been making heavy importations of, for years back? Let any candid man answer the question to his own satisfaction. See what the Herefords were—hear what they are now, and then say if there is any impropriety in charging their admitted "recent improvement" in points in which the Short Horns excel, to an admixture with them. If such is the fact, and we have a number of the finest specimens of the Short Horns, cannot *we*, by judicious crossings and attention to these matters, form for ourselves, if I may be allowed the expression, a breed of grade cattle, without expending enormous sums to pay our transatlantic neighbors for doing work that we ought *now* to do for ourselves? The state of the times is such as to call loudly upon every man in every station of society to do his duty to himself and to his country; and I state it boldly, without fear of contradiction that there is now abundant materials in our own country, to retain by judicious breeding, the purity of the full bred Durham, and to commingle their perfections with the stock of our own country, in such a manner as to produce a race of animals equal to that of any other country under the sun, for dairy properties as well as for the butcher.

It appears to me that the community—for there in part the fault lies—lay too much stress upon the fact of "recent importation." The breed is than said not to have deteriorated, &c. Now we all know that the importation of stock has been carried on ever since the settlement of the country more or less, and we also know, if there is any truth in certificates, that we have hundreds of the best samples of horses, cattle and hogs, now in America, of different breeds and different families of the same breed, and admittedly enough to start with. Now let us see a little *American* spirit displayed, and a large amount of determination diffused among our farmers and others, to foster and encourage those who have expended their money and spent their time in procuring and rearing a superior breed of cattle and swine. The idea of deterioration, where proper attention is paid, is all ideal; the race of man, all will readily admit, has not deteriorated. Why then should cattle? Let our character as agriculturists and stock breeders be stamped with more nationality, and let us foster our own enterprising breeders. Let an *American Herd Book* be opened, and breeders be fully assured of the quality of the animals they purchase, and let them prefer purchasing from American breeders, and the race of cattle and swine will be no worse than those we are paying large prices for, and running the risk of carrying across the Atlantic.

Respectfully, yours,

J. H. HEPBURN.

From the Farmer's Cabinet.

CORN-COB MEAL.

Sir,—As the question of the value of the cob in feeding, when ground with the corn, is again coming into consideration, perhaps the following extract from "Steward's Stable Economy" might go far to decide it, in the minds especially of those who know that the cob is equal in *quantity* to the corn—the only consideration which is necessary in the present stage of the question: on some future occasion, it may be shown that the cob itself is fully equaly in *quality* to the same quantity of oats for this purpose.

"*Condensed food* is necessary for fast working horses; their food must be in less compass than that of the farm or cart horse, but to this condensation there are limits. Grain affords all, and more than all, the nutriment a horse is capable of consuming, even under the most extraordinary exertion; his stomach and bowels can hold more than they are able to digest; something more than *nutriment* is therefore wanted, for the bowels must suffer a moderate degree of distension, more than a wholesome allowance of grain can produce: they are very capacious; in the dead subject more than 30 gallons of water can be put into them; and it is thence evident they were not intended for food in a very condensed form, for it seems natural that they require a moderate degree of pressure or dilation to assist their functions, they must have something to act upon. Now, when hay is very dear and grain cheap, it is customary in many stables to give less than the usual allowance of hay and corn, but the alteration is sometimes carried too far, and is often made too suddenly: the horses may have as much as they will eat, yet it does not suffice without fodder, and, having no hay, they will leave the grain to eat the litter: a craving sensation of emptiness seems to arise, and the horse endeavors to relieve it by eating straw. The sensation cannot be that of hunger, else the horse would devour his corn; but whilst he has plenty of grain and plenty of litter, the diminished allowance of hay is borne with impunity. But when a sufficiency is not obtained in *any* shape, the horse loses appetite and becomes emaciated; his bowels are confined, his flank is tucked up, and his belly almost disappears; in general he drinks little water, and when he takes much he is apt to purge. His belly is often rumbling, the bowels apparently containing a large quantity of air, which occasionally produces colicky pains; these horses are very liable to crib-biting and wind-sucking, and it is certain that these diseases are very rare amongst those that live on bulky food.

When the ordinary fodder is very dear, its place must, therefore, be supplied by some other, which will produce a wholesome distension of the stomach, although it may not yield so much nutriment: straw, roots, either or both, may be used in such cases; the tucked up flank, and the horse's repeated efforts to eat his litter, show that his food is not of sufficient *bulk* to sustain nature in her operations. And when *work* demands the use of condensed food in a horse that has been accustomed for some time to bulkier articles, the change must be made by degrees and with the greatest caution; remembering, that coming from grass or the straw yard, the horse, for a time, requires more fodder than would be proper or necessary to allow him at his work, after a season."

Now, it would appear that the cob, ground with the corn, would be just the proper quantity of fodder for mixing with the corn, the condensed food, for almost all purposes; and nothing, surely, can be mingled with it more readily and conveniently, or so profitably as the cob, which, at the same time, saves the expense of shelling. When, therefore, the philosophy of the arrangement comes better to be understood, we may expect that to grind the cob with the corn will be the general practice, for the feeding of stock of all descriptions.

B. D

From the Farmer's Gazette.

GEESE.

Mr Storer—In No. 2 of the Gazette, you desired information or hints, in relation to the breeding and management of horses, cattle, swine, sheep, &c. Now if '&c.' means a goose, or geese, I have a word to say in relation to them, and this decidedly in their favor. Geese can be raised, in a proper situation, at a profit far greater than almost any other stock. But to do this, more attention is required than is usually bestowed on their keeping and management.

But let us make an estimate of the profit on a flock of ten old geese, in the manner they are generally kept by most farmers. We will suppose that the goose-keeper (for there are many who are not farmers) commences operations by purchasing ten geese in the spring before they begin to lay, at one dollar each, which is a quarter more than they can frequently be obtained for. Eight of the ten geese (for two should be ganders) will have on an average ten goslings each, but allowing one half for paper calculation and probable loss through the season, it will leave us with a flock of fifty, old and young, worth when well dressed for the market, not a dollar, the original cost, but only half this sum, and you have twentyfive dollars. In addition to this, every old goose will yield a pound of feathers, and every young one three fourths of a pound, making in all, forty pounds, which are always worth fifty cents a pound—making twenty dollars for feathers alone, which added to the twentyfive gives us fortyfive dollars. Then deduct ten from this, as the original cost of the old geese, and we have a nett profit of thirtyfive dollars. I say nett profit, for there is not one goose-keeper in ten that feeds his flock, either old or young, after the grass has started in the spring, until fattening time in the fall; and then the large quills will more than pay for their extra food.

The above calculation is made, having reference to the usual mode of managing this fowl, which is no management at all. Because, in the first place, they have generally no place to obtain their food, but on the open commons, except such as they too often steal from meadows and mowing grounds, to the great injury of the standing grass, to the feelings of its owner, and very frequently putting their own necks in jeopardy.

But on the other hand, if the owner will provide a good warm and dry—dry what? Why, if *henery*, (a place for keeping hens,) is an English word, then *goosery* is. Well then, let him provide a good, warm and dry *goosery* for the accommodation of his geese while laying and hatching, and attached to this, a large (or if not a large, then a small) pasture, where they may have at all times access to green grass and a small stream or pond of water, with due attention and the right breed, which in my opinion are the Bremen, and my word for it, with only ordinary good luck he will receive more than ordinary profit on the care bestowed and capital employed. Bremen geese are larger than the native breed, are always white, and yield on an average from one to three ounces more feathers, and these of a better quality, (having more down attached to them) than those of the native brown goose.

As the season is so far advanced, and Thanksgiving day for this year is past, I shall not attempt to inform the readers of the Gazette how a goose may be made perfectly fat in five days, but will defer it, at least for the present. There is not a doubt, however, but that a profit far greater than is generally supposed may be derived from the keeping of geese.

LEXOS.

The smallest bird of America is the humming bird, and of Europe the golden-crested wren. The smallest quadruped in the world is the pigmy mouse of Siberia. The most diminutive plant is the arctic raspberry, which is so small that a six-ounce phial will hold the whole—branches, leaves and fruit.

To ease the pain of a tooth.—Those who have "killing tooth-aches" (says the Nashville agriculturist,) can have relief in ten minutes or less, by putting a mixture of equal parts of alum and common salt into the affected tooth by means of a little cotton plug. Permanent relief is never obtained while there are decayed teeth in the mouth.

It is supposed the amount of cotton exported to England during the year ending September 1840, was about 465,000,000 lbs., which at 8 cents per pound, would amount to 37,200,000 dollars.

Look well to your fires these nights.

THE WAGES OF LABOR.

The following is an abstract of documents lately presented to the British Parliament, containing answers to questions put to foreign consuls by the Secretary of State, having reference to the condition of the agricultural peasantry.

RATES OF WAGES.

Country and district.	Description of laborers.	Yearly wages.	Daily wages.	With or Without Board. Dwelling.
FRANCE—		s. d.	d.	
Calais,	Ploughmen,	100 0 to 160 0	—	with without
	Shepherds,	220 0 —	—	with without
	Laborers,	144 0 —	7 1-2	with without
Bologne,	Ploughmen,	— —	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	—	with without
Havre,	Farm servants generally,	160 0 to 240 0	—	with without
	Do.	48 0 to 120 0	—	with without
Brest,	Laborers,	— —	8 1-2	with without
Nantes, Charante,	Farm servants generally,	60 0 to 160 0	—	with without
Bordeaux,	Laborers,	— —	12 to 15	with without
Bayonne,	Do.	— —	9 to 12	with without
Marseilles,	Shepherds,	200 0 to 240 0	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	4 1-2 to 7	with without
Corsica,	Do.	— —	11	with without
GERMANY—				
Dantzig,	Farm servants,	52 0 to 64 0	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	4 1-2 to 7	with without
Mecklenb'g,	Farm servants,	100 0 —	7 —	with without
	Laborers,	— —	—	with without
Holstein,	Farm servants,	73 6 to 100 0	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	7	with without
NETHERLANDS—				
S. Holland,	Farm servants,	200 0 to 250 0	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	3 to 4	with without
N. Holland,	Do.	— —	20	with without
Friesland,	Farm servants,	50 8 to 166 8	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	6 to 16	with without
Antwerp,	Farm servants,	78 9 —	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	5 —	with without
W. Flanders,	Farm servants,	96 0 to 104 0	—	with without
ITALY—				
Trieste,	Laborers,	— —	12	with without
	Do.	— —	6	with without
	Do.	— —	8 to 10	with without
Istria,	Do.	— —	4 to 5	with without
	Do.	— —	4 to 8	with without
Lombardy, Genoa,	Farm servants,	60 0 to 100 0	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	5 to 8	with without
	Do.	— —	12	with without
Tuscany,	Farm servants,	40 0 —	—	with without
	Laborers,	— —	6	with without

It will be seen by the above table that in France yearly wages for an able-bodied man range from 48 to 250 shillings, and day laborers get in that country from 4 1-2 to 15 pence per day; and whenever they get as much as 5 pence they have to find themselves. In Germany, wages are still lower, and range by the year between 52 and 100 shillings, and day laborers receive from 4 1-2 to 7 pence per day, and find themselves in food. In South Holland, farm hands get by the year from 200 to 250 shillings, and day laborers from 3 to 4 pence per day, and are found. Whoever will take the trouble to examine the table, which is official and authentic, will see that in all these countries—France, Germany, Netherlands, Italy—wages by the year for an able-bodied, sound, healthy man, no where exceed 250 shillings; and, in many instances fall as low as 40, 50 and 60 shillings; and the daily wages range from 3 to 9 and 12 pence, rising in one place, and only one, to 20 pence, and the laborer finding himself! What hope is here for a man born the son of poor parents, ever to better his condition? What ray of hope is there to stimulate him to exertion? None. He who is there born a peasant dies a peasant. Those born to the plough die at the plough-tail; and all that the longest life of laborious toil can procure for them is coarse and scanty means of subsistence.

We may add, by way of making these statements more intelligible, that the shillings and pence referred to in this table are of sterling British money, and that a sufficiently near approximation to our coin is made by just doubling the sum. Thus, when it is stated that in Germany wages vary from 4 1-2 to 7 pence a day—the laborer finding himself—the amount in our money may be put down at from 9 to 14 cents! On the continent of Europe, it will be seen, that nowhere can an able-bodied, industrious, hardworking man earn more than 250 shillings a year, or from $55 to $60, while the average price of such labor does not exceed $30 per annum.—*N. Y. American.*

DAMP STABLES.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Cabinet:

Sir—When I came to the farm which I now hold by purchase, I found the stables built under large trees and near a spring of water, with a northern aspect; my horses were soon in poor condition, with long and rough coats, and almost always lax in their bowels, nor could I get them up by extra food or lighter work; but my cows suffered most, for they were always sick; their milk fell off, and their butter was poor and of a bad color and taste, and four of them slipped their calves before their time: when the spring came, they left their winter quarters in a worse state than I had ever seen them, and two of them died from the scours on going to pasture. On inquiry, I found that the tenant who had left, had always been, what the neighbors termed, unfortunate in his horses and cattle, and from that cause, more than any other, he had not been able to make both ends meet. The truth flashed upon me in an instant, and in a very little time longer than it has taken me to tell you my story, I had commenced pulling down the stable, the unhealthiness of which had been, I was convinced, the cause of all the evil and all the loss, and it was not more than two days before there was not left one stone upon another of the whole fabric. I now set to work and erected another on higher ground, removed from water and clear from the shade of trees, with a south-east aspect and dry capacious yard; and from that day I have had neither sickness nor sorrow in my out-door household; my horses live on less food, are always sleek and in good working condition, and my cows are a credit to their keep; our butter brings two cents a pound more in the market, and for the last year our sales are more than doubled from the same number of cows, and the same pasturage; and no more premature calves. Instead of watering my cattle, as heretofore, at the spring under the trees—the water cold, with a deadly taste and bad color—I sunk a well and put in a pump, and at a long trough in the yard for the summer, and another under shelter for the winter, my cattle slake their thirst, without setting up their coats as they always used to do after drinking at the hole under the trees; even when the weather was warm, they were accustomed to shake all over as though they were in a fit of the ague, after drinking their fill of this water; and to this, with the bad aspect of the stables, I attribute all the sickness and misery which I have experienced amongst my cattle and horses.

I have been induced to tell you the above, by reading in a valuable English work, called "Stable Economy," some observations which would go to show that the writer, like myself, had *enjoyed* the experience of the truth of what he so well describes; and as they fully corroborate all my convictions, I should be glad of the opportunity to present you readers with what he advances on the subject, if it meets with your approbation; and am your constant reader, M.

"A damp stable produces more evil than a damp house: it is there we expect to find horses with bad eyes, coughs, greasy heels, swelled legs, mange, and a long, rough, dry, staring coat, which no grooming can cure. The French attribute glanders and the farcy to a humid atmosphere, and it is a fact that in a damp situation we find these diseases most prevalent: when horses are first lodged in a damp stable, they soon show how much they feel the change; they become dull, languid and feeble, the coat stares, they refuse to feed, and at fast work they cut their legs in spite of all care to prevent them: this arises from weakness; and while some of the horses catch cold, others are attacked by inflammation of the throat, the lungs or the eyes; most of them lose flesh rapidly, and the change produces most mischief when it is made in the winter season. Horses in constant and laborious employment must have good lodgings and kind treatment; but where the stables are bad, the management is seldom good, and it is no exaggeration to say, that hundreds of valuable horses are destroyed every year by the combined influence of bad stables and bad management. And although excessive toil and bad food have much to do in the work of destruction, every hostile agent operates with most force where the stables are of the worst kind.

Stables should always be erected on dry ground or that which will admit of perfect draining, with the surface a little sloping. Stables built in a hollow or on marshy land, are always damp, and when the foundations are sunk in clay, no draining can keep the walls dry; the dampness will follow up the walls from the deepest foundation. It is true that damp stables may be rendered less uncomfortable by strewing the floor with sand or sawdust, and, in some cases, a stove-pipe might be made to pass through the stable near the floor, but such stables are liable to frequent and great altera-

tions of temperature at every change of the state of the atmosphere. Some of the means usually employed against dampness in dwelling houses might be adopted in the construction of stables, so as to prevent the walls from absorbing the moisture of the soil, such as a foundation of whinstone to the surface of the ground, covered with a coat of Roman cement or a sheet of lead; or the foundation may be sunk so low as to admit of its being laid in coal dust or other substance which does not absorb water; and, although precautions of this kind may sometimes prove salutary, they ought not to be trusted to where a dry, airy, healthy situation can be obtained; frequently white-washing the walls with lime seems to have an influence in removing moisture and keeping them dry. The owner of a damp and uncomfortable stable often wonders why so many of his horses catch cold; 'there are always some of them coughing;' now, if he were to make that stable his abode for four-and-twenty hours, he would have but little to wonder at. Large stables are objectionable, and have nothing to recommend them but cheapness in the erection, so that when it is more important to have a cheap than a healthy stable, a large one may be indulged in; the saving in the end, however, may eventually prove a loss, if the builder of the stable be the owner of the horses. A very large stable cannot easily be ventilated; it requires a lofty roof to give any degree of purity, and contagious diseases once introduced into such, spread rapidly and do extensive mischief before they can be checked."

From the same.

POTATO PLANTING.

Mr Editor—I too, must beg permission to endorse the account which follows. I have proved it, therefore I speak with confidence as to the results. In a visit to an excellent agriculturist, I found him cutting his potatoes for seed, and prevailed upon him to select the tops only for planting, reserving the remainder of the potatoes for culinary purposes; he will by this time, have taken up the crop, and would he—he is one of your subscribers—inform us of the result.

In my memorandum-book I find these entries:—29th March, planted, this day, fifty pounds weight of the tops of potatoes which had been reserved, while preparing the bulbs for cooking for the use of the household, by merely cutting off a thin slice and throwing it by in a basket, during the winter, which was placed out of the reach of the frost.—24th September, dug up the potatoes which were raised from the thin cuttings from the tops of the roots while preparing them for the house; they are uniformly large and fine, particularly clean from scab, and, without exception, the best crop I ever grew; the quantity planted was just 50 lbs., and from them I have this day taken up *one ton*. But now allow me to turn to the account spoken of above, which is copied from the 'Agricultural Almanac' for 1823, and which is never the worse for keeping. P. G.

"The following improvement in the culture of potatoes, is taken from the American Farmer, and is extracted for the Almanac, not only under a conviction of the reasonableness of the practice, but from actual experience of its verity. Whensoever the writer has himself superintended the cutting of his seed potatoes, he has uniformly succeeded in this mode of preparing the seed, but when the persons employed were left to their own government, all the parts of the potatoes were indiscriminately cut and planted: the difference in the crop has evinced the necessity of the farmer's attention to the whole detail of the affair: this branch of the culture is too generally committed to boys, or ignorant and careless laborers. The bottom of the potato is no better than the starch of grain, intended by nature to nourish the tendrils thrown out in the first efforts of vegetation; the residue rots and perishes in the ground; therefore the practice of preserving it for the use of the household is a saving instead of a waste. By judiciously cutting the bulb, there will be enough of the pabulum for the tendril or young fibre thrown out by the eye, to subsist upon; indeed, if only the cut containing the eyes were generally used in planting, it is clear that the crop would be the most abundant: this practice had been known to, and often proved by, me, many years before the account of it in the following extract was seen.

[From the American Farmer of 12th April, 1822.]

"A correspondent has requested us to insert the following. The first year, he says, I cut the potatoes in three pieces, the top, the middle, and the bottom parts, and planted them in three rows. The top plant was ten days earlier than the middle plant, and a much greater crop; the middle plant was earlier than the bottom, and a better crop, the bottom producing but a very indifferent crop.

For some seasons past, I have only planted the top eyes, and I may safely say I have the best crop and the driest potatoes in the country. None need be deterred from this plan on the ground of waste, for after the top is cut off, the remainder keeps better and longer fit for use than if the potato were preserved entire; and as a proof of this, lay a whole potato on the ground, or in any exposed place, and it will show that the top plants grow and are many inches in length, before there is any growth from the bottom."

P. S.—If housekeepers in towns were to preserve the cuttings of the tops of their potatoes during winter, and preserve them as above, there would be more than sufficient to plant all the country, without the cost of a single cent for seed!

How to boil Irish Potatoes.—Good and indifferent potatoes depend very much upon the manner in which they are prepared for the table. Some cooks always have heavy, hard, watery potatoes; while others, for the most part, have them dry, mealy, and excellent. This difference depends, generally, upon the difference of cooking. The first cook puts the potatoes into cold water, warms them through by a slow fire, and cools them as slowly; while the other puts them into boiling water, stirs the fire till they are *just dun*, takes them out immediately, throws a wet cloth round them, and gently squeezes each with the hand till it cracks open, for the watery particles to escape in the form of steam, then peals them and they are exactly right. By this plan, almost any potatoe will eat well.—*Nashville Agriculturist.*

Taste for Reading.—If I were to pray for a taste which should stand me in a stead under every variety of circumstances, and be a source of happiness and cheerfulness to me through life, and a shield against its ills, however things might go amiss, it would be a taste for reading.—*Sir J. Herschell.*

Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

EXHIBITION OF FRUIT.

Saturday, Nov. 28, 1840.

B. V. French, Esq. exhibited the following apples, viz: Winter Queen, Danvers Winter Sweet, Pennock's Red Winter, Red Doctor, Been apple, Pomme Gris, Cumberland Spice, Newark King, Winter Spice, Dominiska, and four unnamed sorts. Also, Monsieur le Cure Pears.

Mr Manning exhibited the following apples, viz: Sam Young, (Pomological Magazine, No. 130,) Bordie Tricolor, Victorious Reinette, Reinette Coeur d' France, and a small apple taken from a tree at Elsineur, in Denmark, by Capt. Wheatland, of Salem, in September last. Also, Bishop's Thumb, (London Hort. Soc. Catalogue, No. 125,) Passe Colmar, and Beurre Diel Pears.

The Reinette Coeur de France, is the produce of a dwarf tree received from the Messrs Bauman, of Bolwiller, France: it is of medium size, dark red skin, yellow flesh, and extremely high flavored.

The following description of one of the apples exhibited, the Committee have extracted from the work of Mr Christ, a German Pomological author:

"No. 13. Victorious Reinette, (Reinette Triomphante,) an uncommonly fine, large and well formed apple, which on being deposited on the floor, acquires a deep yellow tint, marked with starry points, and frequently brown rough spots, or large warts: its eye represents a regular star, its flesh beneath the tender skin is yellow, firm though delicate, yielding abundance of juice, that possesses a pleasant aromatic flavor; it ripens about Christmas and may be kept till march. The tree grows luxuriantly and becomes of considerable size."

For the Committee,

ROBERT MANNING.

Agriculture.—He who has dominion over an acre, and rescues it from barrenness, and covers it with a smiling harvest, has more virtuous self-applause than the conqueror of large territories, waste and desolate. The culture of the earth savors of filial affection. It is our bounteous mother; it affords us nourishment, and shelter and shade—fertile streams—fragrant flowers and refreshing fruit. We should love it for the sake of the living—for the sake of the dead. A beautiful plant, or a luxuriant vine, may suggest to a poetical mind the spirit of departed beauty, putting forth again from the earth where its form was inurned.

Agricultural Pursuits.—I tell those who are entering upon a life, that they will find no pursuit which gives more satisfaction—I will say the will find no pursuit which will give so just an occupation of their time with less annoyance and less disturbance to their tempers, than that of agriculture; no other in which they will feel such satisfaction that they are doing good in pursuing their own pleasures at the same time that they are improving the soil. It is a pursuit to which one and all of us should wish success. It is one of those pursuits which is most delightful to follow: it is a pursuit which may be carried on without time ever hanging heavily; an occupation interesting in the highest degree; and while the agriculturist is promoting his own interest, he also promotes the interest of every one of his neighbors. I have found no employment in the course of my life which afforded me so much real pleasure, as the promoting of agriculture by my own endeavors and by assisting the endeavors of others.—*Earl Spencer.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16, 1840.

PROJECT FOR A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MECHANIC ARTS.

We give below the plan of Mr Ellsworth, Commissioner of Patents at Washington, respecting the establishment at the seat of the National Government, of a museum of agricultural products and implements, and of mechanical and manufacturing machines, products and improvements. We beg leave to add our strong wishes for the perfect success of the project. It cannot fail to be of great value to the country.

In the erection of the new building designed for the Patent Office, a spacious hall has been finished and appropriated to this object. Mr Ellsworth has already devoted himself with eminent assiduity and zeal to the collection of seeds and samples of the most valuable agricultural products from different parts of the country, and likewise from foreign countries; and these seeds he has circulated through the country with great liberality. In respect to patented machinery in agriculture or in the mechanic arts, the patent office already affords to the curious mind a study for years. This collection is rapidly extending, as, indeed, there are no limits to invention. Some years since, the number of washing machines entered for patent exceeded four hundred. The various inventions for cooking, and heating apartments, are well nigh innumerable—certainly past all remembrance; and the number of ploughs and improved agricultural instruments fall little short of other inventions. It is not always easy to judge from a model merely, the value of a machine or invention. It is Mr Ellsworth's plan, as far as he can accomplish it, to obtain the thing itself. So, likewise, of agricultural products—those which are not perishable but capable of preservation, he designs, as far as practicable, to obtain in the form in which they grew; grain not only shelled but in the sheaf, and Indian corn in the husk and on the stalk. His wish likewise is, to procure from the manufacturers specimens of all their works. In respect to many articles of manufacture, this will be easy: hats, shoes, whips, combs, buttons, all articles of straw, leather, metal, wood, glass, china, stone, et cetera, this may not be difficult and would be exceedingly interesting. In respect to cloths and articles, which like cloths, are liable to fade, and upon which, likewise, important improvements are constantly in progress, this will hardly do our manufacturers justice; though if such samples are procured from year to year, they will constitute an exact record of the progress of the arts.

The advantages to accrue from such an establishment, if carried out according to the liberal plans of the Commissioner, will be very great to individuals and to the public at large. Until the State of Massachusetts caused to be taken and published statistical returns of all her manufactures, of their kinds and variety, of the amount of capital employed and the value of the manufactured article, no individual in the State had any just idea of their extent and amount. When at the Mechanics' Fairs held in Boston and New York, specimens of these various articles and products were exhibited, no one could repress his surprise at their variety, ingenuity, and the perfection to which the arts had reached among us. The facts disclosed and established in each case have done immense service to the State and the country. They have demonstrated the importance of domestic industry as the foundation of public wealth. They have shown us that the true secrets of our strength and independence lie in our ability to supply our own wants. They have done a great deal to stimulate invention and improvement, by bringing the various products of ingenuity, skill and industry in direct comparison with each other. They have exalted our own just self-respect; and extended the reputation and credit of our country abroad.

Mr Webster on his return to the country from his late visit to England mentions a fact, which strikingly illustrated this matter. He was consulted by a foreign capitalist as to the expediency or security of investing funds in the stocks of our State, then for sale in the English market. He put into the hands of the inquirer a copy of the Statistical Returns of the Manufactures of Massachusetts, prepared by the intelligent and industrious Secretary of State, and published by order of the Government, showing that the avails of the domestic industry of Massachusetts amounted to 91,000,000 of dollars. The gentleman shortly returned the book, giving orders at once to invest a very large amount in the securities of the State, under the conviction that a commonwealth so pre-eminently distinguished for its productive industry could not fail to secure its just obligations.

This proposed collection at Washington will meet the purposes of a great mechanics' fair. It will exhibit the improvements in the arts, and give some just notions of the immense results of our national industry. As Washington is the great centre of confluence of intelligent men from all parts of the country, it will be the best mode that could be adopted of communicating the knowledge of what has been done; and diffusing this knowledge throughout the whole country. It will enable persons in pursuit of particular implements or articles of manufacture, to know at once where they can be best supplied. It will furnish to the manufacturers themselves and the inventors of any improvement in the arts, one of the best opportunities which they could ask for advertising what they have done and what they have to dispose of. It will constitute a place of interesting resort and rich gratification to the curious and intelligent; and form in the end a museum of the mechanic arts as instructive, and in many respects as gratifying, as the finest museums of the fine arts in the old world.

Precisely the same plan proposed by the Commissioner of Patents for a national museum, we proposed three years since for a State museum. We then printed and published a circular, detailing the plan and soliciting contributions. We requested the republication of the circular, as matter of courtesy, in the different papers of the State. We believe not a single city paper deemed it worthy of notice, and not more than half a dozen country papers gave it place in their columns. A few friends sent us some collections. Many more promised us contributions, but forgot their promises. We laid out some money in making collections. But, without a room for their deposit, without funds to pay the ordinary expenses of collection, and above all, without the co-operation of the farmers and mechanics, what could be effected? We still have hopes to live to see, under more efficient hands, this plan accomplished. We have full confidence in its practicableness and its great utility. Above all, we hope that the liberal views of the Commissioner of Patents will be heartily seconded in every part of the country, and that Congress will in their liberality give him all the means he can need or ask for the perfect accomplishment of this excellent object.

H. C.

The following is the circular from the Patent Office above alluded to:

PATENT OFFICE, Nov. 20, 1840.

Notice is given that the Hall in the *New Patent Office* for the exhibition of manufactures, is now completed. The Hall is spacious, being 273 feet long, 63 feet wide, 30 feet high, and *fire-proof*.

Agents whose names are annexed, will receive and forward free of expence, articles which may be deposited with them. These articles will be classified and arranged for exhibition, and the name and address of the manufacturer (with the prices when desired) will be carefully affixed. Few, it is presumed, will neglect to improve the opportunity now presented of contributing their choicest specimens to the *National Gallery of American Manufactures*, where thousands who visit the Seat of Government will witness with pleasure the progress of the arts in these United States.

If fairs, in limited sections of our country, have excited interest, what must be the attractions of a national exhibition, enriched by daily additions.

The agriculturist may be gratified to learn, that commodious rooms are provided for the exhibition of agricultural implements, and also for the reception of seeds for exhibition or distribution.

The Commissioner of Patents, being authorized to collect agricultural statistics, avails himself of this opportunity to solicit information of the condition and character of the crops in the several sections of the country. These data will aid him in presenting with his annual report, the aggregate amount of products of the soil, and it is hoped that the public may be guarded in some measure from the evils of monopoly, by showing how the scarcity in one portion of the land may be supplied from the surplus in another.

Names of agents who will receive and forward packages for the Patent office. Collectors of the Customs at Portsmouth, N. H., Portland, Me., Burlington, Vt., Providence, R. I., Philadelphia, Baltimore, Richmond, Charleston, Savannah, N. Orleans, Detroit, Buffalo, Cleveland. Surveyors of the Customs—Hartford, Ct. St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Louisville; R. H. Eddy, Boston, Mass; David Gardiner, (Custom House) New York.

HENRY L. ELLSWORTH,
Commissioner of Patents.

Editors are very respectfully requested to give the above an insertion in their papers.

INCREASE OF WEALTH.

The English have blockaded Canton, the principal port of China, and the consequence is, the entire interruption of the trade. The effect has been to enhance the prices of teas nearly fifty per cent; and by these means some persons have realized profits to an immense extent. The profits upon a single Canton ship have been stated at 300,000 dollars! and three commercial houses in Salem are represented to have obtained in the advance upon teas, the vast amount of 1,500,000 dollars—if any farmer can enumerate such a sum. Some houses in Boston have been equally fortunate. The public, under these circumstances, are congratulated upon the vast increase of wealth in the country. But how obvious is this delusion. There is no increase of wealth in the country by this operation. Unless the tea is exported not a dollar is added to the wealth of the country by this result. It is merely taking money from the pockets of the consumer to put it into the pockets of the importer—from the individual who buys the tea for use, and giving it to the individual who imports the tea for sale.

We do not say that on the part of the holders or importers of this article there is any thing wrong in this matter. Not at all. It is a lawful trade; and as, under various circumstances, this importation often might have proved a losing concern, and then the community would have had no pity upon them nor felt bound to indemnify them, so on the other hand they have a perfect right to any advantages which come from a natural rise in the market.

But it effects no increase of the wealth of the country, That can be done only by actual production; and actual production is always clear gain. It is interesting further to remark, what immense sums are squandered in the country upon articles either of no intrinsic value, or which we ought to produce ourselves. Tea is not a necessary of life. It is doubtful whether it contributes at all to the nutrition of the human body, how essential soever habit may have rendered it to the comfort of life. Before the American revolution it was a luxury by no means in common use; and it is said to be not many years beyond the remembrance of some now living, that a good woman in the country having received some quarter of a pound of tea, thought the proper use of it was to boil it as greens with her salt pork. Now its use

has become universal, and with many families in the country its use prevails three times a day. But after all it might be dispensed with. If we must use it however, we must import it. We cannot produce it ourselves But it is not so with silk. This we might produce and to advantage; and we should be most happy if the sanguine expectations of some men might be realized, when we ourselves instead of being importers of silk, might become exporters to a most profitable extent. This indeed would be adding to the real wealth of the country.

H. C.

☞Congress are now in session; and the President's Message has been delivered. We are not at liberty to give this document in the New England Farmer; but it will be accessible to our readers through various other mediums. Of one thing, however, we may be certain, whatever interested men may say to the contrary, there never was a country more prosperous than our own: there never was a time or condition of society when industry was better rewarded, justice more faithfully administered, the public peace more secure, or a greater abundance of the fruits of the earth, more profusely distributed. Where are the virtuous, except by extraordinary misfortune, who are not well clothed, well fed, and well housed; and who are without the means of improving their condition? There are none to be found. Why then should webe continually complaining of the spots on the Sun, when they cannot be seen without a telescope of large magnifying power, because of the glowing radiance which surrounds them? H. C.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 1840.

There was a good display of Pears to-day in fine condition for eating.

From S. Downer; D'Aremberg, Passe Colmar, Lewis, Burgomaster, Florelle.

From M. P. Wilder; Passe Colmar, Columbian Virgelouse, D'Aremberg, Prince's St. Germain, Burgomaster.

From S. Pond; Duchess Angouleme, Beurre Diel, Echasserie.

From S. Downer; Ortley Pippin, Spitzemberg, Golden Russet, Roxbury Russet, and Pomme d'Ape Apples and Catawba Grapes.

From S. Pond; Musk Quinces.

For the Committee,

L. P. GROSVENOR.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Dec. 14, 1840.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 780 Beef Cattle, 240 Stores, 2200 Sheep and 390 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle*—The prices obtained last week were hardly sustained. We quote First quality $5 25. Second quality, $4 50 a 4 75. Third quality, $3 00 a $3 75.

Barrelling Cattle.—Mess $4 25; No. 1 $3 75; No. 2 $3 00.

Stores.—Yearlings $5 00 a 8 50, Two Year Old $11 a 18, Three Year Old $21 a 27.

Sheep.—Sales quick. We note sales at $1 42, $1 62, $1 88, $2 00, $2 37, and $2 75.

Swine—Lots to peddle from 3 to 4 for sows and from 4 to 5 for barrows. At retail, from 4 to 5 1-2.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending Dec. 13.

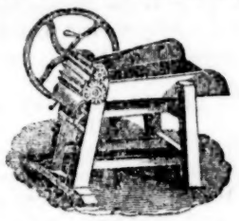
Dec. 1840.	7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 7	24	33	32	N. E.
Tuesday, 8	26	36	30	S. E.
Wednesday, 9	26	42	26	S. W.
Thursday, 10	34	47	44	S. W.
Friday, 11	30	33	28	N. W.
Saturday, 12	16	36	32	S. E.
Sunday, 13	42	52	46	S.

SILVER FIR AND SPRUCE SEEDS.

Just received at the New Eng'and Farmer Office, a few Bushels of the seed of the Silver Fir, Spruce. Also—English Oak, a fine specimen; Spanish Chesnuts, (very large); with a variety of other tree seeds.

Nov. 16, 1840. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

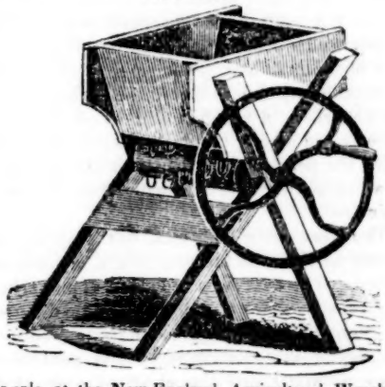
1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.



For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GREEN HOUSE PLANTS, &c. &c.

The subscriber can furnish every variety of Green House Plants or Garden Shrub, in the very best order. Also—Dahlia roots, (all the new varieties): Black Hamburg, Sweetwater, and Isabella Grape vines; Roses and Pæonies; Honeysuckles, and other creepers; Black, White, and Red Currant trees: White and Red Antwerp Raspberry vines: Asparagus and Rhubarb roots, &c.

Orders by mail will be promptly and faithfully executed; or they can be forwarded to, or left with J. Breck & Co

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN,

Oct. 28. Nonantum Vale, Brighton.

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

We would inform our customers and friends that we are now receiving our supply of fresh Garden Seeds, most of which have been raised under our own inspection, from fine selected roots; which we warrant to be of the purest quality of the growth of the present season.

Agricultural Books.

Agricultural Implements.

Seed and Implement Catalogues sent to all applicants gratis, and all orders promptly attended to.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Sept. 29, 1840. 4w

GRINDSTONES.

An extensive assortment of Water and Hand Grindstones constantly on hand and for sale by AMMI C. LOMBARD & CO. 13 Lewis's Wharf. 1sly. Nov. 17.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

		From	To
Apples, Winter,	barrell	1 50	1 75
Ashes, Pearl, per 100 lbs.		5 75	6 00
Pot, " " "		5 50	5 62
Beans, white, Foreign,	bushel	1 75	2 25
" " Domestic,	"	2 00	2 50
Beef, mess, new,	barrel	11	11 50
No. 1.	"	9	9 50
prime,	"	6 75	7 00
Beeswax, white,	pound	37	40
yellow,	"	23	29
Bristles, American,	"	35	70
Butter, shipping,	"	10	13
dairy,	"	18	25
Candles, mould,	"	12	13
dipped,	"		
sperm,	"		40
Cheese, new milk,	pound	7	8
Cider,	dozen	1 25	1 50
	barrel	1 50	1 75
Bone Manure,	bushel		32
in casks,	"		37
Feathers, northern, geese,	pound		
southern, geese,	"	37	45
Flax, (American)	"	9	12
Fish, Cod, Grand Bank,	quintal	2 44	2 58
Bay, Chaleur,	"	2 12	2 33
Haddock,	"	1 25	1 33
Mackerel, No. 1,	barrel	14 25	14 50
No. 2,	"		13 00
No. 3,	"		
Alewives, dry salted, No. 1	"		
Salmon, No. 1,	"	17 00	18 00
Flour, Genesee, cash,	"	5 37	5 44
Baltimore, Howard street,	"	5 50	5 62
Richmond canal,	"		
Alexandria wharf,	"		5 50
Rye,	"		3 37
Meal, Indian, in bbls.	"	3 12	3 25
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,	bushel	62	62
southern flat, yellow,	"	58	60
white,	"		54
Rye, northern,	"	65	68
Barley,	"		
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	42	44
southern,	"	28	32
Grindstones, pr ton of 2000 lbs. rough		18 00	20 00
do. do. do. finished		28 00	30 00
Hams, northern,	pound	11	12
southern and western,	"		11
Hay, best English, per ton,		15 00	16 00
Eastern screwed,		10 50	
Hops, 1st quality,	pound	35	38
2d quality,	"		
Lard, Boston,	"	10	11
southern,	"		
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,	"	26	30
do. country do.	"	23	28
Baltimore city tannage,	"	22	27
do. dry hides,	"	20	23
New York red, light,	"	19	21
Boston, do. slaughter,	"	21	23
Boston dry hides,	"	18	21
Lime, best sort,	cask	75	80
Molasses, New Orleans,	gallon	20	27
Sugar House,	"		
Oil, Sperm, Spring,	"		1 05
Winter,	"	1 15	1 16
Whale, refined,	"	40	45
Linseed, American,	"		
Neat's Foot,	"	95	
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.			
Pork, extra clear,	barrel		17 00
clear,	"		16 00
Mess,	"	14 00	15 00
Prime,	"	13 00	14 00
Seeds: Herd's Grass,	bushel	3 00	3 50
Red Top, southern,	"	70	80
northern,	"		1 50
Canary,	"	2 00	2 25
Hemp,	"	2 25	2 50
Flax,	"	2 00	2 50
Red Clover, northern,	pound	13	14
Southern Clover,	"		15
Soap, American, Brown,	"	4	6
" Castile,	"	12	13
Tallow, tried,	"	8½	9
Teazles, 1st sort,	pr M.		
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	45	50
American, full blood, washed,	"	45	47
do. 3-4ths do.	"	40	45
do. 1-2 do.	"	36	38
do. 1-4 and common,	"	33	35
Northern pulled, Pulled superfine,	"	42	45
No. 1,	"	35	40
No. 2,	"	23	25
No 3,	"	18	20

MISCELLANEOUS.

GARDENING FOR LADIES.

The accompanying amusing and instructive observations are taken from an excellent article in the *Gardener's Magazine*, entitled 'Instructions in Gardening for Ladies,' by Mrs. Loudon:—

To derive the fullest enjoyments from a love of flowers, it is absolutely necessary to do something towards their culture with their own hands.—Labor is at the root of all enjoyment. The fine lady, who has a nosegay put on her table every morning by her gardener, has not a tenth of the enjoyment from it that the lady has who has sown the seeds, or stuck the cuttings, and watered and shifted, or transplanted, pruned, and tied up, or pegged down or thinned out the plants, and at last gathered the flowers herself. But we would have ladies of leisure do a great deal more than this. Let them hoe, and rake, and dig and wheel a barrow, and prune and nail wall trees, handle a syringe, and work one of Read's garden engines. By these and similar operations, they will ensure health, without which there can neither be good temper, nor any kind of enjoyment whatever, mental or corporal. The grand and all pervading evil among ladies of independent fortune, is *ennui*, which, every body knows, is brought on from a want of rational and active operation. Now the pursuits of botany and gardening supply an occupation which is at once rational and active; and they supply it, not only to the lady who has merely a love of flowers without a scientific knowledge of botany or a taste for the arts of design, and who may, therefore, cultivate her flowers, and perform her garden operations, without a greater exertion of mind than is required from a gardener's labor; but to the scientific lady, whose botanical knowledge, like that of the scientific gardener, may enable her to raise many new kinds of flowers, fruits, and culinary vegetables, by the different processes required for that purpose; and to the lady of artistical taste in drawing, painting and sculpture, who may direct her attention to landscape gardening, and more especially, to the designing of flower gardens, and the introduction in them of the various kinds of ornaments of which they are susceptible; a subject at present as much in its infancy as botany was before the time of Linnæus. But, say some of our readers, 'What the Duchess of ——— wheeling a barrow, and nailing wall trees!' Yes, certainly, if she has nothing else to do, that will be an occupation equally active and rational. Why not a Duchess as well as a plain mistress? Suppose this Duchess at work in her garden, and that you are not aware that she has any title. Suppose her dressed in the simplest manner, (as were the Vicomte d'Ermenonville's wife and daughters in the gardens of Ermenonville,) what wonder would there be then? Ladies of rank are as much subject to *ennui* as ladies without rank; and every lady, as well as every gentleman, has a portion of the day that she can call her own, when she may indulge in what she likes. If she has not, her life is not worth keeping. Did not the Earl of Chatham, notwithstanding his being prime-minister at a period the most important that ever occurred in the annals of this country, find time not only to lay out his own grounds, but to assist Lord Lyttleton in laying out Hagley? We insist upon it, therefore, that what we propose is just as suitable and necessary for ladies of the highest rank as it is for those without rank, provided they are equally without rational and active occupation of some other kind.

GRAFTING PEARS ON THE MOUNTAIN ASH.

At a meeting of the London Horticultural Society, Dr Lindley, read a communication received from R. A. Hornby, Esq., containing some observations on the grafting of pears on the mountain ash. Mr H. states, that it lately came under his notice, while staying in Switzerland, where he found it to be very generally practised, and with great success, the crops being both abundant and sure, in a climate and site (on the high plateau of the Tanur mountain, with a poor and shallow soil) where neither pear nor apple would previously fruit, the effect being to retard the blossoms and give vigor to the constitution. Neither the flesh nor flavor of the fruit was said to be at all affected; budding or grafting being alike successful on either old or young stocks by the usual process. Great care must however be taken that none of the young shoots which the stocks may make during the first season after working, be removed; in the succeeding spring, however, before vegetation commences, all such redundant growth should be cut out closely, and the graft alone be permitted to push in freedom. Its growth will then be luxuriant.

A note on the above communication, by Mr R. Thompson, under gardener in the society's orchard, was also read, in which he states that the mountain ash was one among the various kinds of stocks on which the pear was grafted at the society's garden, on which subject the following observations were made:—

The trees grew very well, but scarcely so vigorously as those on the pear stock, or even on the quince. The fruit was produced at an earlier age of good size, there was no perceptible difference in the flavor when compared with those produced under similar circumstances, but on pear stock, nor was it observed that the blossoms were at all retarded. The trees did not appear as if they would be long lived, owing to the unequal swelling of the respective species. The pear increased in diameter more rapidly than the mountain ash. Still as the latter species is much harder than the quince, and would thrive in almost any soil, it might be advantageously used in some situations.—*London paper.*

SIGNS OF A POOR FARMER.

He grazes his mowing land late in the Spring. Some of his cows are much past their prime. He neglects to keep the dung and ground from the sills of his buildings. He sows and plants his land till it is exhausted before he thinks of manuring. He keeps too much stock, and many of them are unruly. He has place for nothing, and nothing in its place. If he wants a gimblet, a chissel or a hammer, he cannot find it. He seldom does any thing in stormy weather, or in an evening. You will often perhaps hear of his being in the bar-room, talking of hard times. Although he has been on a piece of land twenty years, ask him for grafted apples, and he will tell you that he could not raise them, for he never had any luck. His indolence and carlessness subject him to many accidents. He loses cider for want of a hoop; his plough breaks in his hurry to get in his seed in season, because it was not housed, and in harvest time, when he is at work on a distant part of his farm, the hogs break into his garden, for the want of a small repair in his fence. He always feels in a hurry, yet in his busiest day he will stop and talk till he has wearied your patience. He is seldom neat in his person, and generally late at public worship. His children are late at school, and their books are torn and dirty. He has no enterprize, and is sure to have no money, or if he must have it, makes great sacrifice to get it; and he is slack in his payments, and buys altogether on credit, he purchases every thing at a dear rate. You will see the smoke come out of his chimney long after daylight in winter. His horse stable is not daily cleansed, nor his horse curried. Boards, shingles, and clapboards are to be seen off his buildings, month after month, without being replaced, and his windows are full of rags. He feeds his hogs and horses with whole grain. If the lambs die, or the wool comes off his sheep, he does not think it is for want of care or food. He is generally a great borrower, and seldom returns the thing borrowed. He is a poor husband, a poor father, a poor neighbor, a poor citizen, and a poor christian.

FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale that valuable Farm, situated about 3-4ths of a mile below the First Parish Meeting House, on the Stage road, and commonly known as the Judge Prescott farm, containing about 170 acres of superior land, in a good state of cultivation, with two dwelling houses, four barns, and other out buildings. The farm is remarkably well watered with soft water, conveniently fenced, has nearly forty acres of large, handsome wood and timber standing on it, with an orchard of grafted Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, and Cherry trees, and might be easily divided into two Farms. The estate will be sold reasonably. If five thousand dollars be paid on receipt of the deed, the remainder may lay on mortgage to suit the convenience of the purchaser. For further particulars, apply to the subscriber, living on the premises. WM. SALISBURY.

Groton, Oct. 26, 1840. eow.

POUDRETTE.

This valuable manure may be had on application to the subscriber, at the office of the "*New York Poudrette Company*," No. 120 Nassau street, New York. It is *in-odorous*, and may be transported in barrels, on board of any vessel or steamboat, without offence—and it will be found an exceedingly valuable article as a *fertilizer* on *any* soil, and for *any* crops; but more especially for gardens and flowers, as there are no foul seeds in it. Poudrette has been used for three seasons with entire success on Long Island, by many practical farmers, as may be ascertained from letters and statements made by them, and published at this office in a pamphlet containing also the "*act of incorporation*," granted to the Company by the Legislature of the State of New York; and other facts in relation to the subject. *Price* 35 cents *per bushel*. Barrels cost 25 cents each, and hold 4 bushels. Persons wishing to make an experiment on a small scale can obtain *one barrel* by enclosing a *two* dollar current bank bill—or *three* barrels by enclosing *five* dollars, free of postage. *On receipt of the money* the article will be put up and forwarded as directed.

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All orders, or applications in relation to the business, must be made to the subscriber, 120 Nassau street, New York. D. K. MINOR.

☞ I wish it distinctly understood that the "*New York Poudrette Company*" is in no way connected with the "Lodi Manufacturing Company," of which *Anthony Dey* and *Peter Barthelemy* are, or were, the managers.

Dec. 9, 1840. 3m. D. K. M.

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